

JORDAN TIMES

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Meany seeks Ford defeat

WASHINGTON, April 24 (R). — Mr. George Meany, AFL-CIO head and the country's top trade union leader, today called for an all-out effort to defeat President Ford, saying: "It isn't spending that's wrecking the economy — it's unemployment, deliberately created and perpetuated by the administration."

Mr. Meany has said he could support any of the Democratic candidates seeking the presidency this year except Alabama Governor George Wallace.

Volume 1, Number 153

Vest Bank mayors say municipal vote was fair

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 24 — Two mayors elected in voting on the Israeli-occupied West Bank last week said today the elections had been carried out fairly.

Both said they would be concerned with local affairs and not engaged in general politics. Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said the elections had been carried out fairly. He said that if he had been elected as mayor, he would have been helping Israeli authorities would falsify the voting, that did not happen.

He said he would oppose plans Defence Minister Shimon Peres grant self-government to the West Bank municipalities. He is trying to force us into politics. But we do not regard ourselves as spokesmen for the Palestinians. The PLO is our spokesman," he said.

Mr. Freij, a well-to-do Bethlehem merchant regarded as a "moderate," said: "The mayors should not feel themselves as a political body to represent the West Bank. We were not elected because of our political views, and I will resist any attempt to be influenced or projected as a political leader or spokesman for the people."

Both mayors said they would cooperate with the military government on day-to-day matters. But both said they would not rule out joint action by all mayors if they thought such action was justified in reaction to events.

"Moslems love mankind but Israelis hate mankind and hate the Arabs," Mr. Khalaf said. "Unlike the Jews with whom I studied law at Cairo University, and who were my friends... I do not think Israelis will ever have good relations with the Arabs as you only love yourselves."

"You may one day live under foreign occupation — of the Russians, Chinese or Germans — and then you will know what occupation is."

Mr. Khalaf said he was in favour of a Palestinian state on the West Bank, but did not think there could be cooperation between that state and Israel.



FACE THE PRESS. — Britain's Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland, (left) U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and the American Ambassador in London Mrs. Anne Armstrong speak to the press at RAF base Waddington, near Lincoln Saturday morning after a short meeting between the two secretaries. (AP wirephoto).

Kissinger: U.S. may back African nationalist groups

NAIROBI, April 24 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger arrived here tonight to begin an African tour in hopes of forestalling a race war in Rhodesia.

A senior U.S. official aboard the plane that brought Dr. Kissinger here from London indicated that the United States was contemplating political and economic aid — but not military — support for the black liberation movement in the white-ruled breakaway colony.

Dr. Kissinger arrived amidst some of the tightest security ever seen in Kenya for a visiting official. Scores of armed police and plainclothes security men swarmed around the airport.

He was dashed to his luxury hotel at speeds up to 120 kilometres an hour in a bullet-proof car. All traffic was stopped during his ride into the capital and more armed police were along the route.

He had said earlier today that "time is running out" for Rhodesia and any opportunity for a negotiated settlement must be seized.

This was in the interests not only of the black majority but of the white settlers, he told reporters after talks in Waddington (East England) with new British Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland.

Dr. Kissinger said: "We believe that time is running out but the opportunity for a negotiated settlement that may still exist must be seized almost immediately, and

[Continued on page 6]

Nation's hopes are raised Franjeh signs, delivers key amendment

BEIRUT, April 24, (Agencies). — President Suleiman Franjeh today signed a crucial constitutional amendment clearing the way for his early resignation, a key condition for ending Lebanon's murderous civil war.

Political leaders immediately began work on the procedure for selecting a new head of state.

The Deputy Speaker of the Lebanese parliament, Mr. Munir Abu Fadel, said he expected the house to meet within a week to vote for a new president.

Speaker of Parliament Kamal As'ad received the signed document this afternoon. Mr. As'ad will now be able to set a date for parliament to elect Mr. Franjeh's successor.

The President's move relaxed political tension greatly, although a few exchanges of gunfire occurred along the front splitting this capital in two.

The amendment was voted unanimously by parliament on April 10. But while the president hesitated over signing it, an artillery battle broke out here on Thursday night that killed and wounded at least 500 people — the heaviest casualty toll of the year-old civil war.

The higher military ceasefire-supervision committee announced progress toward security and re-supplying civilians blockaded by militia of hostile political parties.

A traffic jam resulted as long files of cars crossed the front line

Mubarak ends historic China visit

HONG KONG, April 24 (AFP). — Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak and members of his high-level delegation left Shanghai for home today at the end of their successful China visit, the New China News Agency reported.

It said that among the 2,000 people who saw them off at the airport were the vice-chairmen of the Shanghai Municipal Revolutionary Committee, Mr. Ma Tien-shu, and Mr. Wang Hsiao-chen, and deputy commander Yang Hsin-ya of the Shanghai military garrison.

The airport flew the national flags of China and Egypt and as Vice-President and Mrs. Mubarak walked around to bid farewell to the well-wishers, the "tarmac presented a scene of jubilation," with

[Continued on page 6]

Shah, Bhutto leave Turkey after inconclusive summit

IZMIR, April 24 (R). — The Shah of Iran and Pakistan Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto flew home today after a summit meeting with Turkish leaders that underlined the splits in their three-nation economic alliance.

The summit ended in an ambitious declaration promising a three-nation free trade zone in 10 years' time, a joint investment bank, a host of joint projects and the drafting of a "treaty of Izmir" giving the little-known Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) greater international standing.

Pakistan has most to gain economically from the alliance, and Mr. Bhutto suggested that the organisation be strengthened to counter economic, ideological, political and military threats. But the summit broke up with no more than promises of economic projects, observers said.

The Pakistani leader told a press conference today he had suggested how a free trade zone could be established, but had run into unidentified opposition. "Bureaucrats will be bureaucrats and they would like to do things in a different way," he said.

The three countries' economies range in strength from the Shah's oil riches to the development problems of Pakistan and Turkey's ef-

in both directions near the museum district, where fighting raged repeatedly this month.

Christians who have run out of petrol lugged sacks of flour to that neighbourhood and traded them to breadless Moslems for tins of fuel.

Leftist militia sent five tank trucks to Christian-held eastern Beirut, and received three truckloads of flour in return (about 35 tons).

Premier Rashid Karami said the hostile factions agreed at the meeting of the high military committee to refrain from attacking

Dutch M.E. view may be changing

THE HAGUE, Apr. 24 (AFP). — The Dutch Government seems to have become a little more favourable to Arab views in the last few weeks, perhaps for tactical reasons, diplomatic observers said here today.

The Netherlands will assume the chairmanship of the European Economic Community in July, succeeding Luxembourg.

According to an informed source, Dutch Foreign Minister Max Van der Stoep suggested recently that it was time for Israel to show more flexibility.

At the same time, he felt that the problems of a Palestinian nation identity, Israeli-occupied territories and the security of Israel's borders would have to be solved, in that order, as part of a "package deal" Middle East settlement, the source said.

But the Dutch government remained opposed to any resumption of the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference for the moment, on the grounds it should be assured of success in advance, and the situation could only worsen if it failed after two or three days.

Confidence vote move makes early Italian election likely

ROME, Apr. 24 (R). — Italy's ruling Christian Democrat Party decided today to seek a vote of confidence in parliament next week, thus opening the way for early general elections.

Officially the vote will be on an emergency programme to lead Italy out of its present political and economic crisis. But Christian Democrat Secretary Benigno Zaccagnini made it clear that the fate of Signor Aldo Moro's minority government would depend on the outcome.

Since Signor Moro's all-Christian cabinet is virtually certain to be toppled, and since observers see no chance of putting together a durable alternative, a defeat in the vote would be equivalent to calling early elections.

According to recent polls, the Communists and Socialists could win a slim majority in the next elections.

The government would fall if the Socialists opposed it. Signor Moro's government depends for its life on an agreement under which the Socialists, Italy's third largest party, abstain in parliamentary votes.

Signor Zaccagnini said whether a parliamentary vote would be equivalent to calling early elections. The Socialists have said that only alternative to early elections is an emergency government including the Communists.

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public services such as the airport, waterworks and the electricity distribution system.

Shells struck the airport on Thursday night and again at dawn today. The Austrian airline AUA cancelled service on the Beirut-Damascus route because of the danger here, a spokesman announced today in Vienna.

But normal service was continued by Air France, Lebanon's Middle East Airlines (MEA), Cyprus Airways, and the Lebanese freight line Trans Mediterranean Airways (TMA).

Raymond Edde, moderate candidate for president, called on Maronite Catholic Patriarch Antounios Boutros Khoreiche today in a bid for his backing.

The Lebanese army command has delegated officers to join Syrian and Palestinian Liberation Army (PLA) officers in efforts to consolidate the imperfectly-observed ceasefire, the high military committee reported.

The president signed the constitutional amendment at Kfour, 30 kilometres north of Beirut, in the Maronite bastion to which he fled after a rebel artillery regiment bombarded his palace last month.

At the ceremony were conservative Maronite political leader Pierre Gemayel, Interior Minister Camille Chamoun and Father Chabel Kassis, Father Superior of the Maronite Monks.

Mr. Chamoun, whose National Liberal Party militia was involved in the artillery battle two nights ago, said it was now up to all parties to keep order so parliament could elect a new president "freely and calmly."

There is no guarantee, even if parliament does elect a new president, that Mr. Franjeh will actually step down before his six-year

[Continued on page 6]

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REVIEWING GUARD. — The Shah of Iran reviewing an honour guard aboard the Yacht 'Savara' during a cruise in the Aegean Sea Friday. (AP wirephoto).

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Room for charity

The signing by President Franjeh of the constitutional amendment yesterday is another of those roadmarks that have dotted the last year in Lebanon with opportunities to hope against reality that the civil war in the country will finally run itself out. The signing, however, is not an automatic guarantee that the underlying problems in the country will now be resolved in the political arena.

It is likely that parliament will convene shortly and select a new president, who would probably take over from President Franjeh within the next month. This is all likely. Nothing is certain in Lebanon any more.

The negative side of Franjeh's delaying game is that the president (if nominal) of the country has used a procedural act that offers some hope of calm for the country as an element in the traditional ways of political bargaining among the country's mosaic of political groupings. His delaying move has brought into the open the lack of cohesion among the right-wing and mostly Christian groups, and some indications from the leftist factions led by Kamal Junblatt that they in turn would not wait indefinitely for the nation to make up its mind, but would be willing to move ahead and establish those structures that would herald the final partition of Lebanon into two states.

As such, President Franjeh's insistence on sticking it out until the bitter end and exiting under the umbrella of a forced and artificial aura of legitimacy may not prove to have been the wisest decision for the future of the country. This remains to be seen, as do most things in Lebanon these days, including the very entity we have always known as Lebanon.

There are parallels, if surface ones, between the situation of President Franjeh and that of former President Nixon during those anxious days of August 1974. It may be cleansing for a nation to go through a drawn out process of public discussion and argument about the rights and wrongs of its highest statesmen. But it is ultimately healthier if the focus of debate — in this case President Franjeh — would look history in the eye and bow to the forces of realism and expediency in the public interest.

He would do his country a real service by bowing out gracefully and in a manner that would assure the nation some sort of restored public authority and state mechanisms that could be the first step towards a resumption of normal life. It is within his power to do this, and much more, if he acts decisively to make his departure from public life more noble than his clinging to public office has been during the past three months.

There are matters of courtesy and personal honour that must be taken seriously in such a move, and whatever one thinks of President Franjeh he is still the president of Lebanon, and, among other things, the man who addressed the United Nations General Assembly in 1974 in the name of all the Arab states.

However much one holds or does not hold President Franjeh responsible for the continuing agony of Lebanon, it is nevertheless a matter of serious concern for the future viability of Lebanon and the ultimate durability of its republican institutions and processes that the presidential succession in the country now be carried out in a manner that radiates more wisdom and public displays of good will than has been shown by the factions in Lebanon during these past 12 months of destruction.

If Lebanon will rise Phoenix-like from its own ashes, it would be an act of supreme nobility and charity on the part of all to allow President Franjeh to take with him from office a dose of personal honour and self-respect that could mark the beginning of more such reciprocal acts of positive compassion. If the country needs anything, it needs this.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

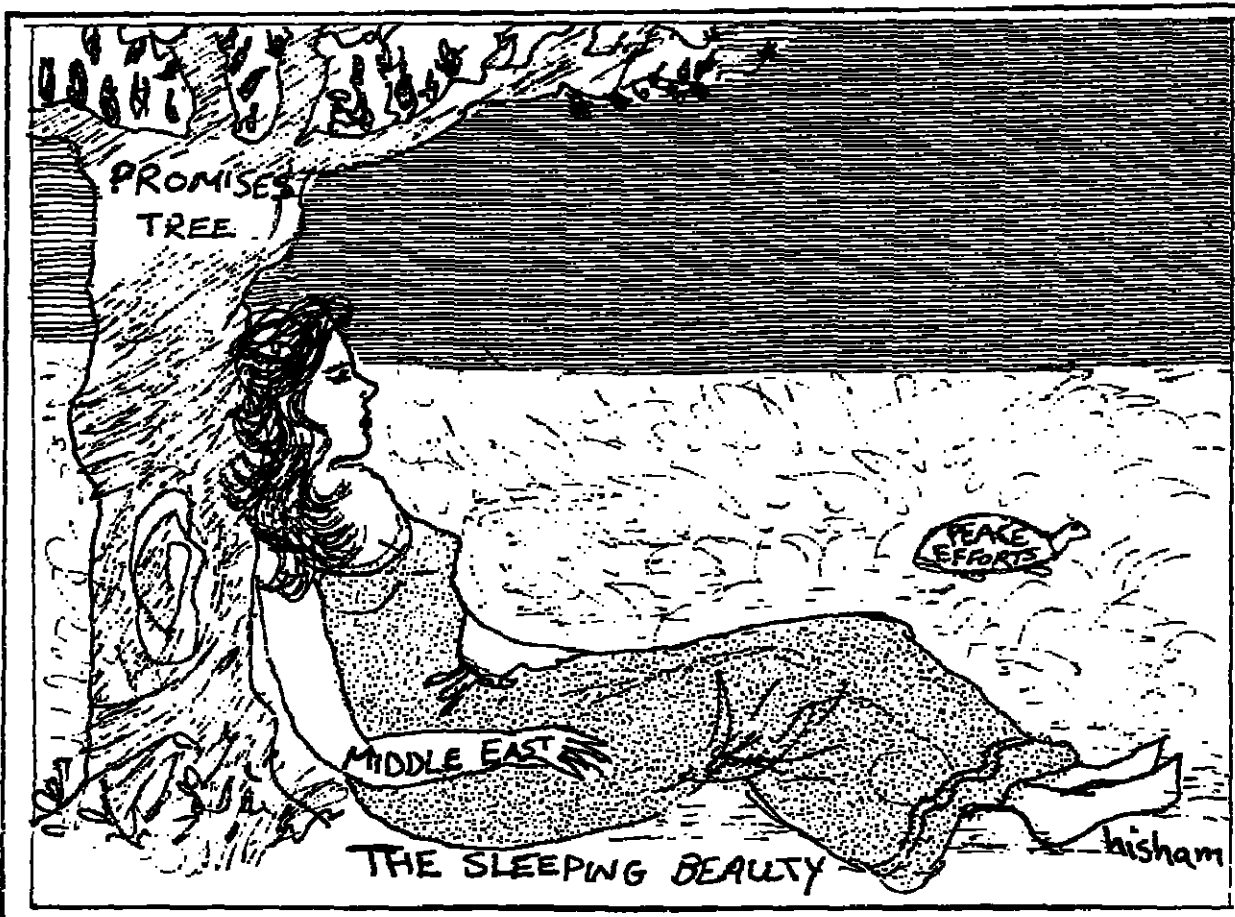
Al Rai, commenting on Prime Minister Zeid Rifai's visit to Syria, emphasises the importance of such contacts between the two countries, in particular with the current Lebanese situation in mind and the dangers which it may foster. If one is to understand the reasons for this conflict, one should refer to the Kissinger declarations made before his African tour, and read them in the light of the new interpretation given to the detente policy between the two superpowers after the Angolan conflict, he paper added. Jordan and Syria are interested in Lebanon because it is a part of the eastern front, and could not be allowed to remain in political disorder; and secondly, because Lebanon is considered an important Palestinian base on which pressure should not be exercised.

King Hussein, during his tour to the U.S., Canada and England, explained that the Syrian stand in Lebanon is also the Jordanian one, and one on which Lebanon could build once again its unity and independence, and which can also protect it against any Israeli attacks.

The Israeli settlers' conference, which started in the Ghor region in the West Bank, Al Dustour said, unmasks Israel's expansionist policy at a time when it is trying to bluff world opinion on its desire for peace. The conference, convening under the slogan "settlement

on the West Bank," makes us see the reason why the Lebanese emphasises the importance of such contacts between the two countries, in particular with the current Lebanese situation in mind and the dangers which it may foster. If one is to understand the reasons for this conflict, one should refer to the Kissinger declarations made before his African tour, and read them in the light of the new interpretation given to the detente policy between the two superpowers after the Angolan conflict, he paper added. Jordan and Syria are interested in Lebanon because it is a part of the eastern front, and could not be allowed to remain in political disorder; and secondly, because Lebanon is considered an important Palestinian base on which pressure should not be exercised.

The communique issued by the Afro-Arab foreign ministers' conference just held in Senegal is considered by Al Sha'ab as a turning point in Afro-Arab relations. The identical views proclaimed by both parties on Zionism and imperialism, the paper said, will consolidate their relationship. The communique set fixed rules and defined working plans for economic and political cooperation. The results obtained at the conference, the paper added, may be considered as a victory for the realistic Arab policy adopted towards Africa, in particular, after the October War. These policies, which consist mainly in providing long-term loans to African development projects, will certainly help win these countries to the Arab side and thus exclude Israel's getting any support from that part of the world.



Arab-Americans set for Cleveland convention

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 24. — The role of Arab-Americans in U.S. politics will be among the principal discussion topics during the fourth annual convention of the National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA) in Cleveland. NAAA Executive Director Thomas Ruffin said the April 29-May 1 meeting will serve to "continue the positive efforts" made by the NAAA, a politically-oriented organization founded in 1972 to foster the traditional ties between the peoples of the United States and the Arab World.

"Arab-Americans have made an impact on the political structure of the United States," Mr. Ruffin said, "and we want to continue in that regard and also to put our people to work supporting President Ford's positive efforts in the Middle East."

More than 1,000 delegates are expected to attend the convention, he noted. Former NAAA President Richard Shadyac will serve as moderator of a panel devoted to "Arab-Americans in U.S. politics." Other themes for panels and seminars include "New Trade Routes to the Middle East," "Interdialogue among U.S. Minority Groups," and "Presentation of the Middle East in U.S. Primary and Secondary Schools."

Officials who will address luncheon and dinner sessions of the convention include Wilpoliam P. Clements, Jr., Principal Deputy Secretary of the Department of Defense; Myron B. Kuropas, Special

Health minister meets ambassadors

AMMAN. — Minister of Health Trad Al Gadhi Saturday met in his office the Danish Ambassador to Jordan. The ambassador was briefed on the health services extended by the ministry, including adopted health programmes and plans drawn up for the purpose of improving and modernising these services.

Dr. Al Gadhi met also the Polish Charge d'Affaires in Amman, with whom he reviewed the health cooperation protocol signed between the two countries. The Charge d'Affaires renewed the invitation extended to Dr. Trad to visit Poland.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim met in his office Saturday the Kuwaiti and Greek ambassadors to Jordan.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Ghaleb Barakat, Saturday met in his office the Pakistani ambassador to Jordan on the occasion of his transfer to another post in the Pakistani Foreign Ministry. In a related development, Jordan has agreed to the nomination of Mr. Abdul Ghayour as the new Pakistani ambassador to Jordanian Royal Court.

● AMMAN. — The Municipalities Credit Fund Saturday decided to extend two loans of JD7,000 and JD5,000 to Bushra and Imrawah, respectively. The loans will be used to set up two school buildings in the villages in Irbid Governorate.

● AMMAN. — The speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Bahjat Talhouni, Saturday received the Kuwaiti ambassador to Jordan.

Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs; and Senator James Abourezk (D-S. Dak.). Moroccan Ambassador H.E. Abdelhadi Boutaleb will be host for the grand banquet in commemoration of America's Bicentennial. Morocco was the first country to recognise the United States in 1776.

Arab Ambassadors and Charge d'Affaires will receive keys to the City of Cleveland at an official reception by Mayor Ralph Perk.

The convention will feature a series of films on the Middle East, and delegates are invited to hospitality receptions sponsored by United Arab Emirates Ambassador H.E. Saeed Ghobash and Qatar Ambassador H.E. Abdullah Salah Al Mana.

AMMAN. — Jordan for the first time will participate in the observance of International Nursing Day on May 12. The celebration, to be arranged by the Jordanian Nursing Organisation at Samir Al Rifai Amphitheater at the University of Jordan, will be sponsored by Her Majesty Queen Alya. Queen Alya will give pins recognising duties well performed to first degree nurses as a token of great efforts exerted in this important field. Speeches hailing the nursing profession will also be delivered.

AMMAN. — The artisans and Handicrafts Fund of the Industrial Development Bank extended 52 loans totalling JD180,000 during 1975, bank sources said Saturday. The Fund was established last year for the purpose of supporting small-scale and handicraft industries by facilitating the acquisition of machines and tools necessary for the trades. Loans are being extended at low interest rates.



ON NO MAN'S LAND LINE. — Convoys of civilian cars seen on the Fnuad street of Beirut Saturday, the no man's land of the warring city, leaving for the right wing held areas. The street is controlled by units of the Palestinian Liberation Army. (AP wirephoto).

"Mr. Travel" nearing the end of his visit

Mr. Roland Hill, who is well known all over the world, as "Mr. Travel," was the guest of honour at a reception held by the President of Jordan Society for Travel & Tourist Agencies at the Jordan Intercontinental.

Mr. Hill who is here on a visit to Jordan as the guest of the Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities will be leaving for his home country today. Mr. Hill (75 years) is still single.



Crown Prince Hassan meets the Nationalist Chinese military delegation Saturday.

Prince receives military visit

AMMAN. — HRH Crown Prince Hassan Saturday received in his office at the Hashemite Royal Court General Lu Yu Lon, head of Joint Administrative Services in the Nationalist Chinese Army, and his accompanying military delegation.

Present at the meeting were the Assistant Jordanian Chief of Staff for Administrative Affairs, The Chinese Ambassador to Jordan and the Chinese military attaché in Amman. Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces General Zeid Ibn Shaker also received the Chinese military delegation.

The guests Saturday Morale Guidance Directorate of the Martyr al II and the Jordanian where the delegation is on the development of nian armed forces.

AMMAN. — Revenues ab Wings air taxi company the first quarter of ched a total of \$459,851 Chairman Ali Ghandour rday.

128 flights, with 62 smen and officials on place during that same a total of 300,093 fligh Mr. Ghandour added time per day averaged rs, which is considered highest rates of opera by any internation company.

AMMAN. — The Natrces Authority is currng in a scientific sturmine locations of cem ores in the southern p Kingdom, sources at p said Saturday.

The study is being by the Mining and Ge search Directorate of the Natural Resourc ty — to determine l gypsum, limestone and which are the necess ents for the cement its establishment of a ce in the south is also b dered.

Seven wells for the of gypsum were drilled thorty last year. Gyps in Jordan have been e one million tons, and six million tons, the a urces said.

Brochures, booklets and posters on traffic regulations and safety measures are being made ready for distribution on a nationwide basis.

AMMAN. — May 4 this year marks International Traffic Day, and the Amman Municipality authorities, in cooperation with other concerned groups, is planning a traffic enlightenment campaign aimed at reducing car accidents to a minimum.

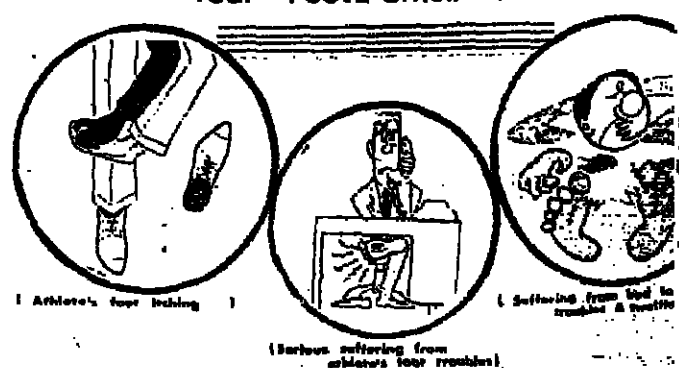
Brochures, booklets and posters on traffic regulations and safety measures are being made ready for distribution on a nationwide basis.

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minority in China rates 'water festival'

G. China, Apr. 24 found in the prefecture of "His-huan Banna Tai". The provincial capital, Ching Hung, has the charm of a city out of an operetta when compared to the rest of China: in the middle of tropical plains, it is young women in iridescent silky skirts, and not workers in blue overalls, who read the posters denouncing Teng Hsiao-ping.

The usual brick houses are replaced here by huts on stilts and the women wear flowers in their hair. They also have old coins in their hairdos — including some turn-of-the-century French coins.

The Ching Hung region, once known as "the malaria country," today exudes health and prosperity. The explanation given by local officials involves long descriptions of "calamities" of the period "before the liberation" when people were advised "to build their coffins before coming to Ching Hung" — and they never stop praising the benefits brought by the communist regime and Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Officials here say that there are only two problems: the presence of 20 "recalcitrant" families that live in the mountains and "still refuse" to join the system of popular communes, and forest fires in the dry season set by "class enemies."

Commenting on the number of fires on the mountain sides noted by journalists, Tao Chih-kuo, Vice-Chairman of the Prefecture's Revolutionary Committee, said that some of them were caused by negligence and others by "sabotage by class enemies."

"Several representatives of the old system," he said, "have not resigned themselves to their defeat, but they do not represent a big threat to the overall system."

"We give them hard knocks," he added but without giving any further details.

The Tai minority, whose spoken and written language is different from pure Thai, are completely integrated into the national political and cultural system.

Portraits of Chairman Mao and Peking propaganda are to be seen here just as much as in the rest of China.

One of the correspondents shared an evening meal, to celebrate the end of the "water festival," with a 25-year-old Tai called Ai Kang-nuan.

Al Kang-nuan lives with his wife, brothers and sisters, and his 70-year-old grandmother.

During the meal, his grandmother recalled that when she was a little girl she had to "clean the tombs of the landlords around the village." "Without Chairman Mao," she said, "I would be dead and we would never have met."

For some months now Al Kang-nuan has directed the 630 members of the production team, who, he says, have complete confidence in him.

"If they think my work is bad," he said, "they will replace me as the head of the revolutionary committee."

Underneath a table in his house is a loudspeaker hooked into the national radio system which brings him official statements from Peking.

Now, the splinter group's actions have led to a crackdown in



GREETED WITH A SMILE. — American Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger seen upon his arrival at Heathrow Airport in London Friday night being greeted by American Ambassador to Britain Mrs. Anne Armstrong. (AP wirephoto).

Has ETA discredited itself?

MADRID, SPAIN (CSM). — The Marxist Basque separatist organisation ETA (Basque Land and Liberty) is in deep trouble on both sides of the Pyrenees, in both Spain and France.

From rightwing phalangists to bishops, from Christian Democrats to Socialists to Communists, Spaniards are repudiating ETA's "execution" last week of Basque industrialist kidnap victim Angel Beradzki.

Across the border in France, concerned French police engaged in a massive operation to flush ETA out from key sanctuaries and to confine suspected activists. They are hunting for two Spanish secret police believe kidnapped by ETA in France, who are feared to have been killed.

ETA has been unable to dismiss Mr Beradzki's murder as a "people's verdict." Mr Beradzki, was well-known and admired among Basques for financially boosting such cultural institutions as "ikastolas," or Basque language schools. He spoke fluent Basque. Fifteen thousand workers attended his funeral. The clandestine Basque government in exile described him as "a decent person in word and deed," and the crime "unjustifiable." The Paris exiled Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) called the shooting "an enormous step backward" for the Basque freedom struggle.

The PNV argued that past ETA actions were provoked by the late Gen. Francisco Franco's policy of strict central control from Madrid, but Mr Beradzki's murder was strictly for money and "shatters" ETA's "historic line." Many here wonder if ETA may not soon shatter or simply fall apart.

Anarchy has reigned within the bankrupt organisation since last summer's police raids. With top leaders in jail a dominant super-militant "commando loco" sub-faction has gone unchecked. ETA's acting hierarchy was concerned its image would be ruined by such acts as the Beradzki murders but was largely powerless.

Now, the splinter group's actions have led to a crackdown in

Indonesia-Timor union hinted

JAKARTA, Apr. 24 (AFP) — The announcement by Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik of an August deadline for the settlement of the Timor problem has sparked speculation that the merger of the former Portuguese colony with Indonesia may be proclaimed on August 17, Indonesia's national day.

This would apparently follow a formal resolution in an East Timor assembly to demand integration of the territory with Indonesia.

Washington learns to live with its military-run neighbors to the south

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — The general consensus here is that Brazil's military men pointed the way with a relatively sound economic policy that has helped put Brazil back on its feet.

The example of Chile's military, however, is troublesome. Economic and social problems in that nation have mounted under military rule, and political repression has continued unabated.

It is clear that the Ford administration, together with hemisphere groups here, hope that Argentina goes the way of Brazil and not that of Chile. Early indications from Buenos Aires suggest that the Argentine military leaders are

IN PERSPECTIVE

By Jenab Tutunji

Lebanon deserves a fresh start

Attempts to defuse the Lebanese crisis, let alone to find a permanent solution to the country's ills, are as frustrated today as ever. After 24 ceasefires, three of which had the hallmark of permanence the Lebanese situation is particularly cloudy today. The reversal of the traditional alliances of the Lebanese factions with outside powers and the increasing number of mediators trying out their diplomatic skills has rendered the puzzle almost totally indecipherable.

The latest development on the Lebanese scene, the move Saturday by President Suleiman Franjeh to promulgate a constitutional amendment making possible the election of a successor to the troubled Lebanese presidency, can at best be greeted with cautious optimism. The move, announced on the pro-Franjeh radio station, followed complicated political manoeuvres by the president, who was holding back his signature while trying to judge the progress of the battle for the selection of a successor.

What form of solution can emerge from the wreckage of the civil war once a new president is elected? The solution that has been tried so far is a readjustment of the power sharing formula among the country's confessional groups. This, although seemingly the most easily attainable solution, has proved to be a paradigm case of crisis management as opposed to a genuine solution.

To use an imperfect analogy, the new president will face a task comparable to that which Prime Minister Rashid Karami undertook. Mr Karami was forced on President Franjeh shortly after the outbreak of the civil war. It took him over a month to form a cabinet. He then had a further two months to try out his hand at working out a formula for slavation. What Karami discovered, as the new president will no doubt also discover, is that whoever tries to rule Lebanon must do so by consent. But it is precisely the lack of a workable consensus among Lebanon's feudal lords and militia bosses that has perpetuated the civil war.

President Franjeh was blamed for hampering Karami's efforts. Regardless of how true that charge might be, the removal of Franjeh from office will not solve the remaining problems.

The new president will find that he lacks the state institutions or the law enforcement agencies through which to govern, (Lebanon's army has evaporated and its security forces

have split along confessional lines), the civil service has gone the same way and parliament is ineffective. In brief, the entire structure of the state has simply ceased to exist.

This, is the best possible argument why the confessional power sharing formula by which Lebanon is governed is not viable. Any split in the country along confessional lines threatens the very foundations of the state, and when the split is aggravated, sweeps away all the institutions by which the state is governed. Therefore, any attempted solution that preserves the power sharing formula is a temporary solution — it could last several years, but Lebanese history shows it to be unwise. Granted that the country is also split by a left-right division, why ask for trouble by opting for a solution that saddles the country with two splits instead of one?

Karami tried, with external backing, to solve the country's problems through a readjustment of the power sharing formula to make it more equitable for the country's various religious communities. No doubt the new president will try to do the same.

He will discover that the confessional power sharing formula, with or without a face lift, cannot serve as the structural framework in which to carry out the necessary reforms. It is precisely that formula that robs the state of the power it needs and apportsions it among the country's entrenched political leaders.

He will find that purely political and economic issues will be translated into confessional ones.

He will discover that there is no such programme for the country as a whole there are only Shi'ite development plans, Maronite development plans and so on. He will discover that in dealing with a minister or a government official he is dealing with the entire community that man represents.

In other words, in addition to ideological and non-sectarian differences in the country, which are there in any civil war, he will find that he has to grapple with the additional handicap of the confessional hue of each individual and each act, which is perpetuated by the system and nurtured in the country's schools.

Why not try to give the new president a fresh beginning. Granted that confessional differences will have to be taken into consideration at the start of his term of office, why saddle him and his successors with a system containing the seeds of yet another civil war in it?



RED GATHERING. — Followers of the Portuguese Communist Party arrive on a flatbed truck in downtown Lisbon for an election rally Friday, the last legal day rallies could be held before the April 25 parliamentary elections in Portugal. (AP wirephoto).



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39th Canton Fair takes on political significance

HONG KONG, Apr. 24 (AFP) — The current 39th Canton Fair is an exposition with a difference for two reasons — another Russian presence and a reflection of China's on-going political campaign against rightists.

The second commercial councillor at the Soviet embassy in Peking, Mr. Kulikov, is at the fair, according to a western journalist just back from Canton.

"Peking and Moscow have a bilateral trade agreement covering all necessary transactions so that the presence of Mr. Kulikov at the Fair is bit mind-boggling," he said.

An American businessman said that there were Russian at the Fair almost every year, but Mr. Kulikov's presence this year could mean that he wanted to make some specific, personal observations at the Fair, which opened only eight days after the dismissal of former "revisionist" Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping.

It appears that the Fair is also being used to show the world that Chairman Mao Tse-tung is right and that former vice premier Teng Hsiao-ping is wrong.

A correspondent of the leftwing newspaper Wen Wei Po who returned from a preview of the Fair writes:

"Through this agricultural and industrial exhibition, China shows to the world that her experience in rapid development is that revolution can boost production. Teng's fallacies, such as 'the present is not as good as the past' are not tenable in the face of this strong evidence."

He cited two exhibits at the Fair to illustrate successes of China's "radical" policy of "self-reliance" as against dependence on foreign imports.

The first concerns a nylon cutter which an unidentified capitalist country sold to China as part of a set of petrochemical equipment but refused to resupply unless at a high price. The new one on show at the Fair is "the first nylon cutter made in China, in three months," the correspondent said.

— Cycloidal-tooth machine produced by China's Qin Cuang Machine Plant is another example of self-reliance. "The capitalist country tried to impose a package deal on China for several million U.S. dollars but Chinese workers

produced the same machine in a short time," he added.

On show also are a petroleum dewaxing agent from Taching oilfield, an advanced heavy-oil cracking installation said to be the first in the world, powder metallurgical moulds and components used in atomic energy, aviation, mechanics and mining industries, 960-channel microwave relay communication equipment for colour TV transmission, and argon ion laser hardening equipment, all Chinese-produced.

Another feature is that new products embodying advanced technology such as computer-controlled machinery and electronic instruments are for the first time listed as export items as are the high speed alloy steel and hardness alloy steel used in atomic, aeronau-

Iranian-Dutch joint venture set up

ARNHEM, THE NETHERLANDS, Apr. 24, (AFP). — Seven Dutch companies and two Iranian firms have set up a joint venture in Teheran named the "Arak Agro Industrial Company", the Iaco Development Company said here Friday.

The project is aimed at improving Iranian food supplies the firm added. Dutch companies will chip in with about four million guilders (\$ 1.6 million), with another 20 million guilders (eight million dollars) to come from other sources.

The project is one of several mounted by the Iranian government to improve food supplies, especially of animal protein products. The stress will be on the "glass of milk a day for every child" program launched last year by the Shah.

The new venture will set up a dairy plant with an initial capacity of 6,000 liters of sterilised milk and 3,000 liters of pasteurised milk an hour. It is expected to come into operation by the end of this year. The project also calls for establishment of a farm for milk and cattle fodder production. It will begin with 600 head of firstian dairy cows.

Iranian partners are an industrialist, Mr Bayat, and the Agricultural Development Bank of Iran.

tical and mining industries.

This situation, if true, could be unexpected to the thousands of foreign traders who throng this spring Fair in such numbers that hotels in Canton, filled to overflowing, have to pair off strangers into available rooms, sources said.

One question is whether the current anti-rightist campaign has taken a toll on production or brought on a new policy of reducing imports into China.

Trade sources said the answer might emerge when the full results of the Fair are assessed after it ends in mid-May.

Japan curbs commercial banks' overseas activities

TOKYO, Apr. 24 (AFP) — Japanese commercial banks will not be allowed to do business abroad other than financial or related services under a new directive announced today by the Finance Ministry.

The ministry said the regulations will be applied to overseas subsidiaries in which Japanese banks own controlling interests and affiliates owned less than 50 per cent but influenced significantly regarding management, personnel affairs and other vital aspects.

Japanese financial institutions' overseas subsidiaries and affiliates were estimated at 370 firms, according to the ministry.

The ministry, in announcing the regulations, expressed concern over a possible recurrence of overseas bank failures involving Japanese financial institutions.

The ministry ordered the banking industry to report on overseas operations once a year, including major loans, liabilities and investments.

In a related action, the ministry has decided not to allow Japanese banks to open new branches abroad during the current fiscal year ending in March, 1977.

Kodama's properties seized by tax authorities

TOKYO, Apr. 24, (AFP). — Japanese tax authorities today announced the seizure of properties of Yoshio Kodama, a central figure in the Lockheed bribery case, for his failure to pay his income tax for 1975.

Sources close to Kodama said he reported a 1975 income of 40,000,000 or 50,000,000 yen (\$ 133,000—166,000) on top of the fees he had received from Lockheed Aircraft Corp. For his service as a "secret" agent, for a total of more than 100,000,000 yen (\$ 333,000).

The properties seized were believed to be worth nearly 70,000,000 yen (\$ 233,000)—the amount Kodama should have paid as his income tax for 1975.

Earlier, tax authorities seized his residence in Tokyo, villa at the resort town of Hakone, west of Tokyo and other properties for his failure to pay an additional tax of about 1,500 million yen (\$ 5 million) newly levied on him for his tax evasion from 1970 to 1972.

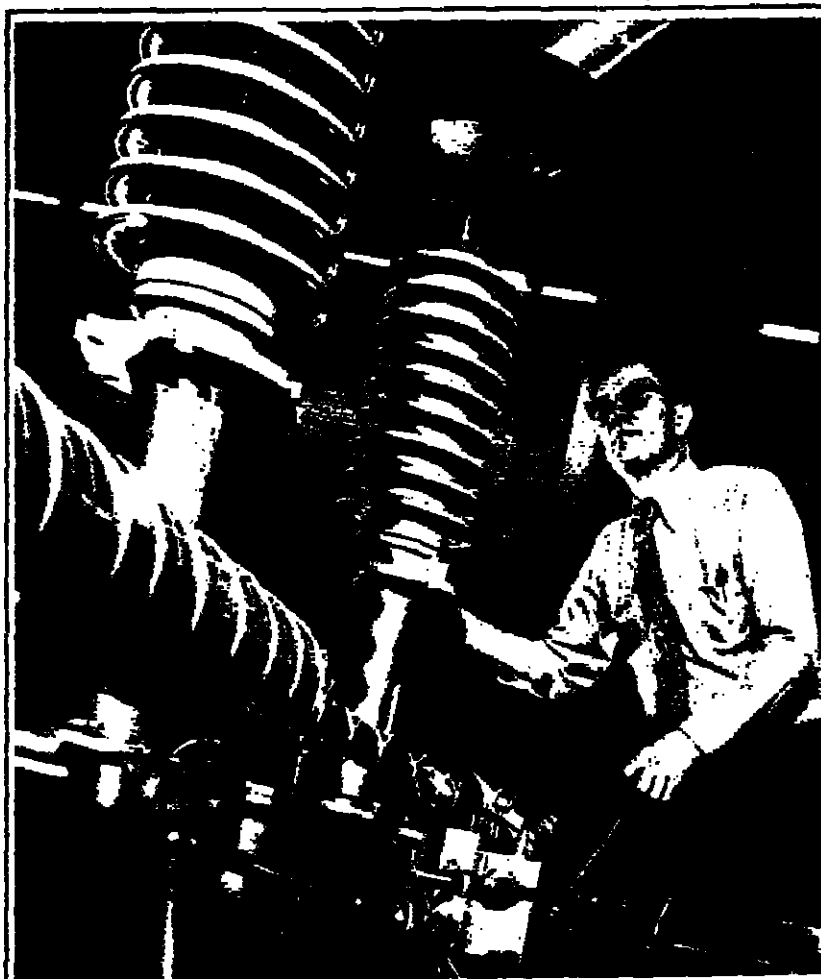
Mali raises \$100m for big dam project

BAMAKO, April 24 (AFP). — Representatives of countries and international agencies participating in Mali's \$100 million Selingue dam project on the Sankarani river 100 kms east of here have accepted Mali's plan for the scheme.

Delegation from West Germany, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Kuwait, France, Italy, Qatar, the African Development Bank, the Arab Bank for African Economic Development, the European Economic Community and the U.N. Development Project reached agreement on the Malian proposals just before ending their two day meeting under the chairmanship of Mali Industrial Development and Tourism Minister Lamine Keita.

The \$100 million estimate excludes provision for monetary depreciation.

Work is now expected to start this autumn. When complete, the Selingue dam is expected to fulfil Mali's electricity needs and prevent future shortages of irrigation water in the event of a new drought in the region.



COLD POWER. — A significant advance in the development of supercooled electric power cables, chilled nearly 200 degrees C. below zero to increase their current-carrying capacity by as much as ten times, has been achieved by the General Electric company in Schenectady, New York. Its engineers have identified an electrical insulation material that is expected to become one of the key building blocks in underground transmission systems of the future. Here, samples of the material, a modified cellulose paper tape, are prepared for insertion in a supercooled facility where they are subjected to ultra-high voltages. The test programme is co-sponsored by the Electric Power Research Institute and the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration.

ADB to help economic rehabilitation in Indochina

JAKARTA, Apr. 24, (AFP). — Proposals for participation of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the economic rehabilitation of Indochina have highlighted speeches by delegates to the current meeting of the bank governors.

Addressing yesterday's session, West German Minister for economic Cooperation Egon Bahr said it was in the interest of stability and security that the consequences of the war in Indochina should be overcome as soon as possible.

It seemed right that the bank should participate in the peaceful reconstruction of that region according to the normal rules applied to all member countries, he added.

Laos, South Vietnam and Cambodia are members of the bank but only the first two have sent delegations to the Jakarta meeting.

Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation Jan Pronk said he hoped it would be possible for the bank to participate in the development program for the countries in Indochina which have suffered "so much from events in the recent past."

The need for rehabilitation and reconstruction in this area was a challenge to which all had to respond, he added.

The bank finances two projects in Laos, but it had no contacts with South Vietnam since the Communist take-over until the arrival of a three-man delegation led by Governor of the National Bank of Vietnam, Mr Tran Duong, on Wednesday.

Mr. Tran is to address the meeting today.

A stern call for a review of the bank's lending borrowing and financial policies was made by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of the treasury John A. Bushnell. The time had come for the bank to move from financing its loans from paid-in capital to relying primarily on private capital markets, he said.

Marcos backs banana boats

MANILA, Apr. 24, (AFP). — President Ferdinand Marcos today pledged government support to a proposed joint venture to obtain ships for Philippine banana exports to Japan and the Middle East, the presidential office announced. The announcement said Mr Marcos was apprised of the project by John Taylor, president of the United Fruit division of the American-owned United Brands, who arrived here several days ago on a business trip.

Mr Taylor said he and a Filipino banana producer-exporter, Antonio Florendo, have been eyeing the idea of setting up a joint tieup and acquiring at least three ships to carry Philippine fruit shipments to Japan and the Mideast.

The American executive said the three refrigerated ships which would be acquired were under foreign registry but that they could be procured in weeks.

Only Britons miss cut-price shopping

LONDON, Apr. 24, (AFP). — The French day-pers are no lon from France, Europe as well.

The cross-chpanies are ready and have stepped between Br

Behind the rush to the British shores is the stark economic fact that the pound has plunged by about 10 per cent since the beginning of the year.

Tourists with their pockets bulging with French francs, Swiss francs, Deutsche marks, Danish crowns, Spanish pesetas and Saudi Arabian riyals are taking advantage of the new exchange rates to gobble up practically anything that is going.

That includes leather ware, standards such as Shetland pullovers, the latest mod clothing and even furniture.

An official at Harrods, where the financial and aristocratic elite have always shopped, says that sales of furniture have increased 20-fold compared with this time last year.

A store specialising in leather furniture said it sold about 50 suites, all of them costing between 500 and 1,000 pounds, on Easter Saturday alone.

Oxford Street, one of the world's most famous shopping thoroughfares, is a teeming mass of cosmopolitan humanity six days a week.

An official at Selfridge's one of the biggest stores on the street, said the tourists are even buying up the luggage stocks in order to carry away their booty.

At Selfridge's, the official said, "the buyers are going mainly for high-class woollen ware, cosmetics and perfumes."

"We estimate that we will be selling 30 million pounds' worth of goods this year compared with 20 million last year", the official said.

But the phenomenon is not limited to London. Newcastle, one of Britain's most unattractive cities, has been taken by storm by hordes of shoppers crossing the choppy North Sea from Norway. And along the south coast, traditionally the shopping centre for

Canada coal, oil next 15

OTTAWA, Apr. 24, (AFP). — A federal government official said the plan to continue coal and oil for 10 to 15 years, ed here.

The conclusive strategy document to the House study concluded term program, ciency would t for the country

The report took a year to ces an earlier dated by the I

Exchan

Following a change rates i business day: figures denote prices in Jorda U.S. dollar: U.K. sterling: French franc: Swiss franc: German mark: Iraqi dinar: Saudi riyal: Syrian pound: Egyptian pour: Lebanese poun: U.A.E. dirham

Black market for babies emerges in U.S. market

LOS ANGELES, California, Apr. 24, (AFP). — For every 20 children legally adopted in the United States, one is sold on the black market.

The going price for a baby at the moment is between \$ 5,000 and \$ 50,000 depending on its sex, colour and background.

The black market in babies began thriving in the wake of the contraceptive pill, which brought down the country's birth rate and made "surplus" children a scarce commodity.

"We're going through an incredible, nationwide baby hunger at a time when adoptable infants are becoming scarce", says Charlotte Dearmond of the California Children's Home Society.

Couples wanting to legally adopt a child have to wait from three to five years for a white baby and nine months for a black one.

For this reason, those with the ready cash are turning to the black market, where supplies are more readily available.

In California, where the prices are highest, some couples are reported to be paying college students to tell them when a girl on the college campus becomes pregnant, and there is a story of one Californian girl who exchanged her newly-born child for a second-hand car.

Another tale is of a California couple who paid \$ 50,000 for a "made to order" baby after choosing its parents from a special catalogue.

The business is flourishing so well that there are now fears that the mafia will get in on the act.

Richard Moss, Deputy Los Angeles District Attorney, says: "This situation is very susceptible to organised crime."

Mr Moss believes there is already a baby-running network which smuggles the infants across state boundaries as the market pressures demand.

One of the reasons that the racket goes unchecked is that most state laws do not explicitly ban independent adoptions.

In addition, many lawyers are believed to be involved, but the authorities are having trouble proving it, even when their books show they received a fee of between \$ 10,000 and \$ 15,000 for a transaction which, when done legally, would normally not cost more than \$ 400.

A New York adoption official, Mrs Betsy Cole, comments: "Like doctors, lawyers have an unwritten conspiracy to charge what the traffic will bear and to supply what the public wants—in this case, babies or parents for babies."

The silence which surrounds the baby racket also makes it difficult for the authorities to put the finger on culprits.

Mr Moss explains: "The mother who sells her child won't talk because she's been paid off. The foster parents won't talk because they want to keep the child. The intermediary won't talk because he made most of the profit. And the child is too young to talk."

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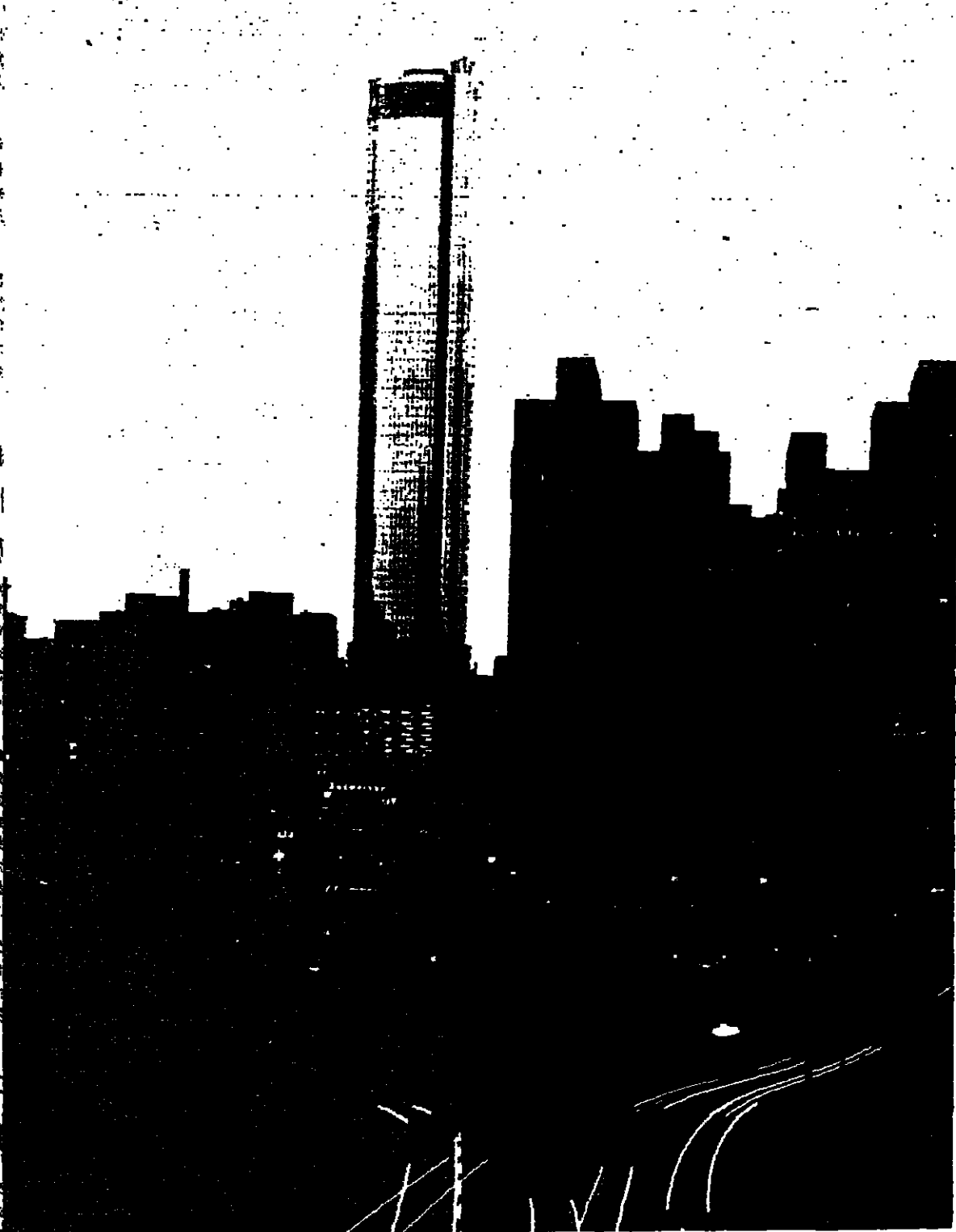
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Atlanta's Peachtree Plaza - an architectural extravaganza



Peachtree Center Plaza Hotel soars 70 stories.

overhead and visible through the faceted skylight.

The 10 massive columns supporting it carry several levels of landscaped lounge areas, some of which sit out in the middle of an interior, one-half-acre lake like upholstered lily pads.

Bridges and curvaceous esplanades crisscross between the core area and the outer walls of the atrium, where meeting rooms, balcony-like lounges, and an immense ballroom are positioned.

For all its complexity, it is a highly legible latticework of space, revealing one surprise after another to its ubiquitous visitors. It is one of Mr. Portman's more important accomplishments that he has been able to orchestrate here a sizable number of instruments into a harmonious whole.

There are spaces within the spaces to retreat to with friends while watching the passing parade from a comfortable drive. There are experiences within the experiences, as the enfolding structure alternately opens up, closes in, defining intimate restaurants, nightclubs, sidewalk cafes, more and more lounges, and places just to lean over the railing and look look.

The Peachtree Plaza is spliced into the ongoing life of the surrounding city by shiplined levels facing out toward Peachtree street — the once-blighted stretch which Mr. Portman turned around through his powerful perception and creative spending strategy.

And to help his visitors get a good view of how that strategy is enlivening Atlanta's main street, Architect Portman has attached a pencil-slim cylinder housing an elevator to the bigger one of the hotel. Crawling to the top, the elevator reaches the three-level revolving "sundial" restaurant. More than a delight and divers-



Skylight at lower edge of cylinder.

ion, Peachtree Plaza is a successful summing up of one man's determined, life-long drive to define the essential element of community to eliciting spaces where people can creatively, spontaneously meet, stay, relax, shop, walk, and truly be.

America lags behind in the seat-belt department

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM).—Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Ontario, and Puerto Rico are passing the United States in forcing car passengers to buckle up their safety belts.

At least a dozen countries have ordered use of car seat belts since 1974—while Americans keep looking for other ways to save lives on U.S. highways.

Within months, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is to decide if new cars should contain a collision-restraint system for passengers who do not buckle up.

Air bags which balloon on impact, inflatable lap-belt systems, and a "passive" seat which re-

quires no active buckle-up by passengers are under scrutiny by the department—and by Detroit.

American officials question just how much teeth the new U.S. laws can have in forcing car riders to buckle up. Without strict police enforcement and constant publicity, belt usage can slowly drop following initial passage of a law, say DOT observers.

Puerto Rico ordered a safety-belt law in 1973 and has received almost \$ 500,000 in DOT funds to support the new measure. Seat-belt usage rose slightly from a low of 10 per cent. DOT officials blame the use of "cautionary" tickets rather than tickets tagged with a \$ 10 fine. Auto fatalities, however, dropped significantly since 1973.

DOT officials may soon pick a state in which to initiate a three-year "blitz" on car passengers to persuade them to buckle up. Federal funds, publicity, and other measures would be used for two years leading up to a third year of mandatory usage with penalties.

Such an "experiment" would provide "convincing information" on what the U.S. can do under mandatory seat-belt laws.

Insurance companies could allow discounts for drivers who "buckle up" and courts could grant favour to belted drivers in accident suits, under DOT proposals. Also, driver-education courses would emphasise seat belts more, and driver certification tests would require seat-belt usage.

Plans to order seat-belt usage under penalty of fine have been temporarily shelved, say DOT officials. But they admit pressure is strong to follow the lead of other nations in outlawing unbuckled drivers.

On Feb. 1, 1976, Ontario, Canada, became the first major jurisdiction on the North American continent to enforce a mandatory seat-belt law.

Toronto police ticketed more than 400 unbuckled passengers in the first month. Fines ranged from \$ 20 to \$ 100. Transportation officials claim seat-belt usage rose from 20 per cent to over 70 per cent for all passengers. Quebec and Alberta are considering similar laws while U.S. officials watch the effects of the Ontario enforcement.

In Australia, which in 1972 became the first nation to enact mandatory seat-belt use, officials claim a dramatic drop in the auto-accident death rate. Enacted state by state, seat-belt laws in most cases exempt deliverymen, as long as they are not carrying passengers.

That, in fact, is the bottom line which makes John Portman more than just a skilled designer entrepreneur—which, in fact, makes him one of the truly great city seers of our time.

as their vehicles do not exceed 15 m.p.h., children under 8 and persons over 70.

New Zealand quickly followed its neighbour's lead and also reports



When it comes to buckling up, the

a drop in auto injuries and fatalities—but only for front drivers with seat belts buckled.

In Europe, meanwhile, all but two Western nations recently passed measures requiring use of seat belts. Most actions followed a 1974 United Nations meeting on traffic safety. Italy and Britain took no action, although in February the British House of Commons voted to require motorists to wear seat belts. Enforcement would be several months away, if at all. Belt supporters point to the financial costs to Britain of unbelted passengers as well as the dangers.

Sweden jumped on the belt bandwagon in 1975, but the new law only requires belts for front-seat occupants, and those persons under 15 years of age and those shorter than 58 inches. Car fatalities also dropped as belt usage rose.

Switzerland passed an ordinance, effective in 1976, which puts an \$ 8 fine on unbelted passengers, calls for children to ride in the back seat, and is being "strictly enforced," say Swiss officials.

In the Netherlands, however, enforcement of a 1975 belt law is weak, and the Belgium police only ticket violators when they spot them for other crimes.

Finland's 1975 belt law shows signs of increasing belt usage. "Good things take a long time to get to the public. Buckling up is a small nuisance, but the fine doesn't make you happy either," said Jaakko Bergqvist of the Finnish embassy.



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6.20 Cartoons
6.40 Six million dollar man
8.00 News in Arabic

Channel 3:
7.30 Reportage
8.30 Arabic series
9.15 Wrestling

Channel 6:
7.30 News in Hebrew
7.45 Varieties
8.30 Special programme on Easter
9.00 Men and machine
9.10 The explorers
10.00 News in English
10.15 Hawaii 5-0 (on both channels)

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14.45 Doha, Dubai (GA)
18.45 Baghdad, Kuwait
19.00 Bahrain, Bangkok
20.00 Jeddah
20.30 Teheran

Arrivals:
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8.30 Aqaba
11.00 Cairo (EA)
11.15 Kuwait (KAC)
13.35 Dubai, Doha (GA)
16.30 Cairo
16.40 Paris
16.55 London
17.20 Copenhagen, Frankfurt
17.55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
18.00 Rome
18.30 Beirut (MEA)

Radio

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7.00 Breakfast show
7.30 New Bulletin
7.45 Morning melodies
8.00 Sign off
12.00 Pop session (part I)
13.00 News Summary
13.03 Pop session (part II)
14.00 News Bulletin
14.10 Radio magazine
14.30 Pop music U.S.A.
15.00 Concert hour
16.00 Old favourites
16.30 Easy listening
17.00 Pop session (part III)
18.00 News Summary
18.05 Listeners choice
18.30 Varieties
19.00 News Bulletin
19.10 News reports
19.30 Sign off

Market Prices

Almonds (dry): 100-150
Almonds (local): 200-240
Apples (golden): 120-200
Apples (starken): 200-250
Apples (double red): 300-360
Bananas: 150-190
Bell pepper: 240-280
Cauliflower: 100-140
Carrots (yellow): 40-60
Cucumbers (small): 160-200
Cucumbers (large): 100-140
Eggplant (large): 120-170
Eggplant (small): 140-170
Grape leaves: 300-380
Grape fruit: 50-65
Green beans: 280-320
Garlic (green): 60-100
Hot pepper: 240-340
Lemon: 70-110
Lettuce (small): 30-40
Lettuce (large): 50-70
Horse beans: 40-60
Marrow (small): 130-170
Marrow (large): 60-100
Orange: 80-120
Onions (green): 120-160

Onions (dry): 110-150
Potatoes (imported): 90-120
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Tangerines: 130-160
Tomatoes: 80-130

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Kamel: (36295)
Ya'ash: (24425)

Taxis:
Khayyam: (41541)
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Tonight's TV Features

HAWAII 5-0
HONOUR IS AN UNMARKED GRAVE
Writer blackmails old lady killer and gets killed. McGarrett enters the scene.

EASTER PROGRAMME
LA PIAZZA
A half hour colour episode showing the Pope giving his Easter blessings from the Vatican.

THE EXPLORERS
MARY KINGSLEY
Mary Kingsley, a British explorer mixes with West Africans. Lives their daily lives.

SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN
DIVIDED LOYALTY
Steve Austin helps American scientist and son to return to the States after having defected to East Europe.

Vietnamese go to the polls to elect single assembly

SAIGON, April 24 (R). — The people of North and South Vietnam will tomorrow elect a common national assembly, symbolising a united and independent Vietnam for the first time in more than a century.

The election of 243 deputies from the South and 249 from the North will officially end an era of division and foreign domination which began when French troops occupied the port now known as Da-nang in 1858.

It will be followed later in the week by anniversary celebrations marking the end of the war in South Vietnam on April 30 last year.

The new assembly will elect the central government and decide on the name, flag, anthem and the capital city of the reunited country. It will also adopt a new constitution and approve the first post-war five-year plan.

There will be no opposition representatives in the assembly. Mr. Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the National Liberation Front (NLF),

told an election meeting here: "Our government is a government of labour people, workers and farmers. To whom would such a government of the majority be opposed?"

In a related development, all Catholics in Saigon went to church today instead of Sunday because of tomorrow's general election the North Vietnam News Agency re-

Vietnamese official says international finance welcome

JAKARTA, Apr. 24 (AFP) — South Vietnam's delegation head Tran Duong today announced that his government would welcome aid by banks and friendly countries to help in the economic development of Vietnam.

He told the Asian Development Bank here the reunification of Vietnam would have to influence on relations between Vietnam and

the bank, "which will be maintained."

North Vietnam is not a member of the bank. He proposed to initiate discussions with the leadership of the bank to revive former bank aid projects, adapt them to the new circumstances and carry them out.

"We are determined to build an independent, peace-loving and socialist Vietnam," Mr. Tran said, "and for that purpose there is no reason why we would not cooperate in the economic, scientific and technical fields with other countries."

The Vietnamese delegate said his government had succeeded in restoring the national economic situation from the chaotic situation in which it had been plunged by the previous administration.

Emphasis had been put on a programme of development of agriculture, cattle breeding and fishery so that it had been possible to meet the need of the population and lay the foundation for the rehabilitation of the economic, he said.

He charged that the U.S. had reneged on a promise to help Vietnam after the war and additionally clamped an embargo aimed "at asphyxiating our international relations."

"But thanks to assistance from our friends, especially North Vietnam, and thanks also to cuts in our expenses, we have been able to surmount our difficulties," he said.

He stressed that Vietnam's abundant resources constituted a solid basis for economic development.

Earlier, French delegate Jean-Yves Haberer pleaded for participation of the bank in the reconstruction of the countries of Indochina.

Similar pleas for aid to Vietnam were made yesterday by the Dutch and West German ministers for economic cooperation.

Mubarak ends visit

[Continued from page 1] people waving bouquets and silk ribbons while youngsters danced to a fanfare of gay music.

"Hailing Vice-President Mubarak's successful visit to China the well-wishers expressed the hope that the people of Egypt and other Arab countries and the Palestinian people will win new victories in their struggle against imperialism, hegemonism and Israeli Zionist aggression, and that the unity and militant friendship between the people of China and Egypt will rise to new heights."

Mr. Mubarak began his China visit last Sunday, met Chairman Mao Tse-tung on Tuesday and signed a military protocol with China the next day.

Before he left Peking Mr. Mubarak was quoted by diplomats there as saying he was very satisfied with the outcome of the talks he had held and that China was ready to aid Egypt in all fields.

West Bank mayors

[Continued from page 1] In another development, the Nablus town council today protested to the Israeli occupation authorities against the sealing off of several entrances to the ancient Casbah quarter.

The Israelis on Thursday erected iron gates on half of the 20 entrances to the quarter to prevent clashes similar to those that erupted there in recent months.

Three of the gates were damaged during the night and the Israelis today repaired them.

A demonstration was staged outside a high school but was dispersed by Israeli military forces.

The only other incident in the West Bank was the discovery of an explosive device in the main square of Jenin, north of Nablus. Israeli sappers defused the device before it could explode.



ELECTION CAMPAIGN VIOLENCE. — An angry Portuguese uses his umbrella to attack a youthful worker of the Socialist Democratic Party (CDS) who was honking horn in Lisbon with a convoy of cars on Friday evening the last day of the election campaigning before Sunday general election. The CDS is a conservative right wing party. (AP wirephoto).

U.K. football roundup Rangers beat Leeds, but face wait on title fate

LONDON, Apr. 24 (R) — Queen's Park Rangers face an agonising 10-day wait before knowing whether they have won their first English soccer league title after beating Leeds United 2-0 today.

Rangers finished their 42-match league season with 59 points and must now await the outcome of Liverpool's last clash away to Wolverhampton Wanderers on May 4, which will decide the closest championship race in recent years.

Liverpool, whose match against Wolves was postponed because striker John Toshack is playing for Wales against Yugoslavia today, need only a goalless or low-scoring draw to clinch the title for record ninth time.

Rangers lived dangerously in their tense clash with Leeds but eventually went ahead through Dave Thomas in the 62nd minute. Stan Bowles made it 2-0 eight minutes from the end to help set the stage for a crucial encounter between Liverpool and Wolves.

The match against Liverpool will also be vital for Wolves who will have their last chance to stave off relegation to division two next season.

The crucial relegation clash between Sheffield United, who are already destined for the second division, and Birmingham City will also be played on May 4.

Turco-Greek rivalry threatens NATO's southeastern flank

IZMIR, Turkey, April 24 (R). — The blue and white standard of Greece still flutters over NATO headquarters in this western Turkish port city but the command list shows vacancies for Greek commanders.

Athens has long withdrawn its men from the unprepossessing grey building overlooking the limpid, disputed waters of the Aegean and housing the command for "NATO land southeast" — the alliance's name for Greece and Turkey.

This anomalous situation is one more indication of the disarray on NATO's southeastern flank since Greece withdrew from the alliance's military structure following the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus and pulled out its officers here.

But U.S. NATO officials say the new U.S. defence agreements with Athens and Ankara and the prospect of the two quarrelsome allies negotiating a non-aggression pact were fuelling their hopes that NATO's shaky southeastern flank could be shored up.

The alliance's southeastern ground forces commander, General Melvin Zais, said in an interview that until Greece and Turkey settled their many disputes, there was an ever-present danger of conflict between the mutually suspicious allies.

The two economically ailing countries have plenty of causes for conflict.

Apart from their festering dispute over Cyprus, they both want to play a predominant role in the Aegean, here they are at loggerheads over air space, seabed oil exploration rights and the issue of Greek armament of the Dodecane-

President urges Portugal to exercise ballot power

LISBON, Apr. 24 (R) — President Francisco da Costa Gomes today appealed for a big turnout in tomorrow's parliamentary elections, which are expected to plunge Portugal deeper into political uncertainty.

He called on the 6,500,000 electors to think deeply and dispassionately before taking part in the first free vote for a legislature in half a century.

"With everybody participating in order and peace, this will constitute the best answer to those who deny the viability of a democratic Portugal," he said in a televised broadcast.

But the deadlock likely to emerge from tomorrow's polls on the second anniversary of the coup which overthrew the old dictatorship could leave the country still deep in political trouble.

The socialists are expected to have their 11.5 per cent lead in last year's election for a constituent assembly cut to a few points by a shift of opinion to the right. That Bamako has good relations with the Conservative Party (PPD) is tipped to come a close second, and the Conservative Centre Democrat Party (CDS) should easily displace the Communists in third place.

Tomorrow's vote is for an assembly of 263 legislators from whom the future government is to be chosen.

But it will take office only after presidential elections in late part with the Sahara d-

Mali to host summit on S.

BAMAKO, Mali, Apr. 24 (R) — The heads of state of Mauritania will soon to discuss the former Spanish Sahara sources said here today.

Mauritanian President Ould Daddah had already said he was ready to dispute and observers that bamako has good relations with all the parties involved, Mauritania and Morocco, Mauritania and Algeria partitioning and self-determination for Algerian Foreign Minister Boumedienne was capital yesterday for President Moussa Traore's Foreign Minister Dabo Cissoko was today with a meeting with the Sahara d-



AERIAL ATTACK. — Queen's Park Ranger's David W stretches in the air as he outjumps Paul Madeley of Leeds high ball during Saturday afternoon's League Division C Loftus Road, London. (AP wirephoto).

French student movement loses drive

PARIS, April 24 (R). — French student protests against educational reforms appear to be losing much of their momentum after the movement failed to obtain active trade union and worker support.

A demonstration held here yesterday to push for abrogation of reforms the students said would give industry too big a say in running the universities, attracted fewer participants than the first mass march a week ago.

There were fewer violent clashes with riot police as the students' own marshals maintained better order.

The demonstration was called by a meeting of student leaders in the south-western city of Toulouse last week. It was intended to show the government the intensity of feeling against the reforms which

Cairo aims to balance aid from U.S., Russia

CAIRO, Apr. 24 (AFP) — The United States has supplied more economic aid to Egypt in two years than the Soviet Union has in 18 years, the Cairo weekly Akhbar Al Yom reported today.

Soviet loans since 1958 totalled 569 million Egyptian pounds (about \$1,300 million). Part of this was to build the Aswan High Dam.

These loans are repayable in five to 12 years at an interest rate of 2.5 per cent, the weekly said.

U.S. economic assistance amounted to 700 million pounds (\$1,700 million) repayable in 30 years at three per cent interest with a ten-year grace period.

Trade Minister Zakaria Tewfic, who will start a visit to Moscow tomorrow, will explain that Egypt wants its trade balanced between East and West, Akhbar Al Yom reported.

He will say that Egypt wishes to avoid having ties with only one of the two (Eastern or Western countries) because of the danger of depending on that group, the weekly said.

Japanese girl is steak lady

TOKYO, Apr. 24 (AFP) — A 24-year-old Japanese girl was declared the winner in a steak-eating contest by eating nine 200-gram steaks in 50 minutes in Tokyo today.

Twenty men and 19 women from seven countries took part in the contest sponsored by a steak restaurant.

A 26-year-old American student who ate eight pieces took second place. The winner and the runner-up each receive a calf a 30,000 yen (\$100) dinner ticket from the sponsor.

Under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, the Royal Racing Club will hold a festival inaugurating the Arab horse, dromedary racing season on Sunday, April 25, at three o'clock at the Club's racing ground in Marka.

The public is invited.

No admission charge.